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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/897,988	07/05/2001	Yuta Nakai	US-1420	1677

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EXAMINER

MARVICH, MARIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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09/897,988	05 July, 2001	NAKAJET AL.	US-1420

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		MARIA MARVICH	
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		1633	20110813

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The reply brief filed 6/2/11 is acknowledged. Applicants' arguments hinge on the appearance of the alternative linking the references in the 103 rejection. It is noted that this argument is newly added by applicants only after filing of the appeal brief. Rather, throughout prosecution on both sides, the arguments regarding the rejection have indicated an understanding that the references are linked. Hence, despite the oversight, it is clear the references are to be considered together.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARIA MARVICH whose telephone number is (571)272-0774. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00-4:00).
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Weitach, PhD can be reached on (571)-272-0739. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Maria B Marvich/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1633